GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3193
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2000
MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE FOR PEPPER COFFEE ETC.
VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the wake of fall in prices of various agricultural products such as Pepper,. Coffee, Coconut, Tea and rubber due to globalisation and liberal imports Government are considering to fix minimum support price for their items to protect the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) & (b): No minimum support price is proposed to be fixed by the Government on pepper, coffee rubber and tea. However, in order to provide remunerative price to the coconut growers, Government announces minimum support price for copra every year. Accordingly, the minimum support price for milling copra of fair average quality (FAQ) has been fixed at Rs. 3250 perquintal and that of ball copra of FAQ at Rs. 3500 per quintal for the year 2000.
(c) Declaring a support price for export oriented crops like coffee, rubber, tea and pepper does not appear to be a feasible proposition as in the free market era prices are determined by the market forces.